GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CIVIL AVIATION
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:122
ANSWERED ON:23.07.2001
LOSSES DUE TO NEGLIGENCE OF AIR INDIA OFFICIALS
SATYAVRAT CHATURVEDI;SUNDER LAL TIWARI

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn towards the news-item captioned `Adhikariyon Ki Adoordarshita Se Air India Ko 325 Crore ke Chapat` published in `Rashtriya Sahara` dated June 2, 2001;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the officers that have been found guilty for it; and

(d) the action being taken against them?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHARAD YADAV)

(a): Yes, Sir.

(b) & (c): At the request of the Ministry of Civil Aviation, the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) has registered a Preliminary Enquiry in this regard against the officials of Air India associated with the Wet-lease deal including the then Managing Directors of Air India and the Managing Director of M/s Caribjet. The main allegations being enquired into are:-

- Terms offered to M/s Caribjet by Air India were more favourable than those offered in 1994.

- Non-inclusion of termination clause.
- Whether the termination was warranted.
- Circumstances leading to termination.

- Whether adequate efforts were made to protect the commercial interests of Air India, while terminating the agreement.

- Whether adequate efforts were made to protect commercial interests of Air India in the arbitration proceedings.

- Any other related issue that may crop up during investigations.

(d): It is only after the CBI submits its report the further action will be taken against the erring officials.